

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LAUNCHING OUR NEXT GENERATION

By order of Governor Mike Parson, during the month of March, communities across the state will honor the dedicated service of their local boards of education during School Board Recognition Month. The goal is to build awareness and understanding of the important function an elected board of education plays in communities and schools. All Missouri citizens are asked to recognize the important contributions of these men and women and focus attention on the vital role these public officials play in the education of Missouri’s children.

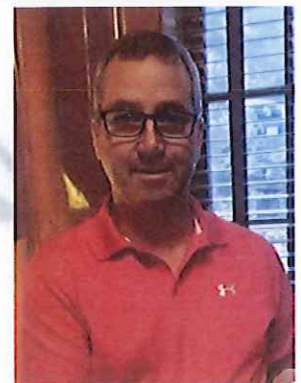
Avenue City School District students benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by a group of men and women from our community. These public servants are elected by you and do not receive compensation for their tireless efforts. They are the local school board members of Avenue City School.



Name of Board Member (Years of Service)
• President Travis Elifrits (15 years)
• Vice President Justin Palmer (9 Years)
• Tonya Ball (12 years)
• Rodney Davison (25 years)
• Abe Forney (1 year)
• Kody Hickman (1 year)
• Nick Salmons (5 years)

Rodney Davison Receives “Friend of Education” Award

Congratulations to **Rodney Davison** for being selected for the **Friend of Education Award** from the Northwest Region of Missouri Association of School Administrators for the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Davison is completing his twenty-fifth year on the Avenue City Board of Education, where he served many years as President.



Superintendent Grimes noted Mr. Davison's pivotal role in facilitating the passage of numerous bond issues within the Avenue City School District, a testament to his impactful contributions in the growing community. His authentic and positive connections with community members have significantly propelled the district in a favorable direction. Rodney, a man of few words, consistently offers his support in various activities, showcasing unwavering dedication to the students, teachers, community, and staff. His leadership and active involvement in our educational community are highly esteemed by all.

Special recognition for this honor will be made at the Spring Missouri Association of School Administrators Conference to be held March 2024 at the Lake of the Ozarks.

NOTES FROM SUPERINTENDENT GRIMES **FOCUS ON THE END IN MIND –** **PROGRESS TAKES PERSEVERANCE AND GRIT**

The 2023-2024 school year can be described as a progressive year. When I think about where we started in August of 2023 and where we are in March of 2024, I am impressed with the progress I have witnessed. Using time, discipline and grit; ACES keeps flying onward in a positive trajectory. Students are making academic, physical, and social/emotional progress. Staff is making progress meeting the needs of students and the community. Board of Education Members working in conjunction with construction workers are making progress in our building project.



Student progress in our district continues to amaze me. Based on our last district wide benchmark assessments, in four months of instruction students were making an average of eight months of progress in the reading/language area. In the area of mathematics, students are making over twelve months of progress in four months of instruction. Some objectives cannot be measured by standardized tests. I am able to witness small progress each day. At the beginning of the school year, students who did not know letter sounds are now reading sentences and books; students are adding and subtracting fractions; technology is being used to efficiently complete projects; students are skipping, hopping, tying shoes; cooperation and teamwork are being utilized; and multi-step directions are being followed. Have students failed at some tasks? Of course. However, through perseverance, hard work, and grit, they are overcoming. They are forming a community of learners by making progress and supporting each other. Forward trajectory each day adds up to HUGE results for our students.



Bronner Construction and Crane's crew is making positive progress on our building addition. Dirt is being moved, walls are being demolished, floors have been formed and poured, and steel is on site and being installed. The crew exemplified grit and determination to continue to work through brutal cold temperatures, snow, and ice to keep the project on schedule. Staff, students, and community members have worked cooperatively through the minor inconveniences of the construction project to keep the end in mind. All involved realize that every block we place is a foundation for our students and community's onward trajectory.

As the spring season approaches, our district must be determined to continue with perseverance and grit to finish strong. The fourth quarter is tough on students, teachers, and parents. There is so much to be done in a short amount of time. We need to continue to make positive progress in the few months we have left of school. Help your child stay focused by detailed planning, keeping routines consistent, and making sure all communication is clear. Do not let "spring fever" take over. Summer is just around the corner, with perseverance and grit we will continue to soar forward in our positive trajectory!

Professional Development News

The Avenue City School staff recently completed assessing the Department of Education’s standards for Social Studies curriculum, which included the most updated information of grade level standards. Staff has looked at various options for updating our Social Studies curriculum and supplies that correspond best with these state standards.

As a school, we are using The Essential 55 to create a positive behavior system in which expectations in all areas of the school are consistent and provide a positive environment for the students. We have revisited our expectations throughout the school year during in services to discuss the success of how this has been implemented and make changes to what needs to be improved. This is an ongoing process that we will continue to implement this year and in upcoming years, but we feel this development has been a valuable tool for our students and staff alike.

As we are now into the second semester of the school year, our staff will begin looking at opportunities to attend summer workshops and trainings. This will allow us to grow professionally and give us great information and access to new resources to use in the classroom to meet the needs of the students.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD

This sport is sanctioned by Missouri State High School Athletic Association and sponsored by Avenue City School. The team will be coached by Coach Proctor, Coach Hare, and Coach Hochenauer. Students in grades 7 & 8 may participate. For more information and details please reach out to any of the coaches.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
4/2/24	SMS
4/9/24	SMS
4/11/24	North Andrew
4/13/24	Spring Garden
4/22/24	St. Joe Christian



Avenue City ACES

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

APRIL 5TH

- Must be 5 by August 1st
- Items to Bring: Proof of Residency, Birth Certificate, Registration Form & Parent Questionnaire (sent home prior to screening)

CALL TO SCHEDULE

816-662-2305

www.avenuecityschool.org

Inaugural Archery Season

Our first season started in December. Twenty-five archers in 4th through 8th grade practice twice a week and compete in tournaments on Saturdays throughout Northwest Missouri. Coach Davis and Coach Jones are proud of how the archers have improved throughout the season. The district is looking forward to being able to host tournaments in our new gymnasium next year. We had a handful of archers that were on the cusp of qualifying for state competition. In our inaugural season, Kash Davis has qualified for the state tournament held in Branson in March. We cannot wait to take him and watch him compete.



Follow us on Facebook @ ACE ACES



www.avenuecityschool.org

Mr. Don Lawrence Recognized as “Outstanding Emeritus Educator”



Don Lawrence served Missouri public education for 41 years. He attended high school at St. Joseph Central. He was the only male in his elementary education program during his entire schooling at Missouri Western State University. Don obtained his degree in three years and was hired in the Savannah R-III School District to teach all subjects to 10-year-old 5th graders when he was only 20 years old. Two years later, he was made an elementary principal and seven years later, he assumed his first job as superintendent. Don served as superintendent at Jamestown C-1 for three years. He then returned to Savannah where he served as their superintendent for 17 years before retiring in 2011. After 30 days of retirement, Don assumed the part-time job of superintendent for the Avenue City School District. He remained in that capacity until August of 2023.

Mr. Lawrence will be recognized by the Missouri Association of School Administrators as an Outstanding Emeritus Educator in March of 2024 at the Lake of the Ozarks.

PTO News

As always, the PTO Executive Committee would like to thank our members and ACES families for all of their support this year. A special thanks goes out to all that volunteered at the Annual Pancake Breakfast.

As everyone is aware, the building is under construction, so we are pivoting from our annual Spring Fling event to a Family Bingo Night. This will be held April 13th from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the school. In addition to bingo, we will be serving delicious pulled pork sandwiches, chips and drinks, as well as having a combination of raffle and silent auction items. We will be selling raffle tickets prior to the event, so please be on the lookout for them. More details will be posted on Facebook in the coming weeks. In the meantime, a Signup Genius link is on our Facebook page, allowing you to sign up to volunteer. To donate bingo prizes, items to the silent auction or if you have any questions please email the PTO Exec Team at pto@avenuecityschool.org.

Our last scheduled PTO meeting is March 12th. We will be electing a new President and Treasurer, so please make plans to attend. Our upcoming events include:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3/12/2024 6:30 PM | PTO Meeting |
| 4/9/2024 5:00-8:00 PM | Culver’s Night |
| 4/13/2024 5:00-7:00 PM | Spring Bingo Night |
| 5/6-5/10 | Teacher Appreciation Week |

Do not forget that we have apparel and trash bags available for sale throughout the year. In addition, we continue to accept new memberships throughout the year, so it is never too late to join the PTO!

Once again, thank you for the continued support you provide to PTO and ACES. Through your support, we are able to provide field trip assistance, playground equipment, sport uniforms, as well as endless classroom supplies to better the working environment for our students and staff.

2023-2024 ACES PTO Executive Committee

Joella Schultz, President
Heidi Brandt, Treasurer

Kim Esley, Vice President
Metchel Rosmolen, Secretary

Board of Education Meeting Highlights

A brief description of the highlights of the board meetings from November 2023 to February 2024 is listed below. The minutes of each board meeting is posted on the school webpage under **Board Information.**

November 13, 2023

- Construction Update
- Proposal Request for Construction Project
- Review of Program Evaluations for 1) Federal Programs, 2) Climate, 3) Assessment, and 4) Student Data
- Gift Acknowledgement
- Creation of Additional Middle School Position
- Motion to Set Dates to File for the Board of Education
- District Transportation - Requests for Proposals
- Addition to Substitute List
- Addition to Extra Duty Schedule for School Year 23-24

December 11, 2023

- Addition to Substitute List
- Review of Program Evaluations for 1) Special Education and 2) Gifted
- Construction Update
- Purchase of New Access Control/Security System

January 11, 2024

- Review of Program Evaluations for 1) Professional Development and 2) MSIP 6 Annual Performance Report
- Approval of Preschool Tuition for 2024-25 School Year
- Approval of Preschool Handbook for 2024-25 School Year
- Accept Resignation of Staff
- Construction Update
- Approval of PR-02 Adding Floor Sleeves, Covers, and Volleyball Court Markings in Gym
- Addition to Substitute List

February 8, 2024

- Gift Acknowledgement
- Review of Program Evaluation: Homeless & Migrant
- Posting of the 2024-25 School Calendar
- Approval of Estimated Tax Rate and Assessed Valuation for FY2025
- Renewal of Middle School Cooperative Agreement
- Approval of Transportation Bids
- Construction Update
- Approval of Technology Purchases
- Approval of Social Studies Curriculum Purchase
- Approval of Procedure for Student State Competitions

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2024.

END OF YEAR TESTING
April 30th thru May 3rd

Measuring student progress and growth in various academic areas.

HELPFUL TIPS

- Know the testing schedule**
- Maintain a positive attitude**
- Prioritize bedtime**
- Prepare a nutritious breakfast**
- Extra physical activity at night**

ACES HIGH FLYERS
Students recognized for superior character traits:

RESPECT: Penelope Burns, Bentley Smith, Brody Worley-Glise


RESPONSIBILITY: Olivia Ellis, Samara Browning, Jessica Qin

GRATITUDE: Ellie Bodenhausen, Henry Brown, Emily Barsch

KINDNESS: Jules Gewin, Blakely Smith, Khloe Payeur

INTEGRITY: Wesley Gregory, Grace Huff, Jackson Salmons

Andrew County Spelling Bee Champion
Beau Flatt, 6th Grader at Avenue City School, earned 1st Place in the Andrew County Spelling Bee!





PRESENTED BY





Teacher of the Month

Congratulations, Faith Davison

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WE ARE ON THE WEB
WWW.AVENUECITYSCHOOL.ORG

Follow
ACE ACES



04/13/24
5pm-7pm

Avenue City Elementary

More details will be sent out soon.